§ 900.224

(c) If your claim is for \$100,000 or less and you do not advise the awarding official that you want a decision within 60 days, or if your claim exceeds \$100,000 and the awarding official has notified you of the time within which a decision will be issued, the awarding official shall issue a decision within a reasonable time. What is "reasonable" depends upon the size and complexity of your claim, and upon the adequacy of the information you have given to the awarding official in support of your claim.

§ 900.224 What happens if the decision does not come within that time?

If the awarding official does not issue a decision within the time required under §900.223, the Indian tribe or tribal organization may treat the delay as though the awarding official has denied the claim, and proceed according to §900.222(e).

§ 900.225 Does an Indian tribe or tribal organization get paid immediately if the awarding official decides in its favor?

Yes. Once the awarding official decides that money should be paid under the contract, the amount due, minus any portion already paid, should be paid as promptly as possible, without waiting for either party to file an appeal. Any payment which is made under this subsection will not affect any other rights either party might have. In addition, it will not create a binding legal precedent as to any future payments.

§ 900.226 What rules govern appeals of cost disallowances?

In any appeal involving a disallowance of costs, the Board of Contract Appeals will give due consideration to the factual circumstances giving rise to the disallowed costs, and shall seek to determine a fair result without rigid adherence to strict accounting principles. The determination of allowability shall assure fair compensation for the work or service performed, using cost and accounting data as guides, but not rigid measures, for ascertaining fair compensation.

§ 900.227 Can the awarding official change the decision after it has been made?

- (a) The decision of the awarding official is final and conclusive, and not subject to review by any forum, tribunal or government agency, unless an appeal or suit is timely commenced as authorized by the Contract Disputes Act. Once the decision has been made, the awarding official may not change it, except by agreement of the parties, or under the following limited circumstances:
- (1) If evidence is discovered which could not have been discovered through due diligence before the awarding official issued the decision;
- (2) If the awarding official learns that there has been fraud, misrepresentation, or other misconduct by a party;
- (3) If the decision is beyond the scope of the awarding official's authority;
- (4) If the claim has been satisfied, released or discharged; or
- (5) For any other reason justifying relief from the decision.
- (b) Nothing in this subpart shall be interpreted to discourage settlement discussions or prevent settlement of the dispute at any time.
- (c) If a decision is withdrawn and a new decision is issued that is not acceptable to the contractor, the contractor may proceed with the appeal based on the new decision. If no new decision is issued, the contractor may proceed under § 900.224.
- (d) If an appeal or suit is filed, the awarding official may modify or withdraw his or her final decision.

§ 900.228 Is an Indian tribe or tribal organization entitled to interest if it wins its claim?

Yes. If an Indian tribe or tribal organization wins the claim, it will be entitled to interest on the amount of the award. The interest will be calculated from the date the awarding official receives the claim until the day it is paid. The interest rate will be the rate which the Secretary of the Treasury sets for the Renegotiation Board under the Renegotiation Act of 1951, Public Law 92-41, 26 U.S.C. 1212 and 26 U.S.C. 7447.